

News Release

California Regional Water Quality Control Board
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 23, 2008

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CENTRAL COAST WATER BOARD ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE OFFICER PROPOSES FINES TO BARDEX CORPORATION IN SANTA BARBARA COUNTY FOR HAZARDOUS CHEMICAL WASTE CLEANUP VIOLATIONS

SAN LUIS OBISPO – Bardex Corporation faces a fine of \$25,000 for hazardous chemical waste cleanup violations that occurred from November 2007 to March 2008.

The Assistant Executive Officer of the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board has issued an administrative complaint to Bardex Corporation for violations of two cleanup and abatement orders and a separate technical reporting order. Bardex Corporation spilled chemical wastes from its facility in Goleta, contaminating soil and groundwater.

The Water Board Executive Officer issued the cleanup orders in April 2004 and January 2008, and a separate technical reporting requirement in October 2007. The three orders were issued to ensure that Bardex properly clean up the chemical waste spills, and that it stop all discharges of polluted water to nearby surface water bodies. Bardex delayed submitting reports required by the orders, further delaying the progress of the cleanup activities, extending the time soil and groundwater were exposed to the spilled wastes, and allowing the continuation of discharges from the site to surface waters. Surface waters in the vicinity include Carneros Creek and Goleta Slough.

The Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board is a California state agency tasked with preservation and enhancement of water quality. The Water Board is scheduled to consider the complaint at its regular public meeting on October 16-17, 2008, in Santa Barbara.

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